JULY—1954

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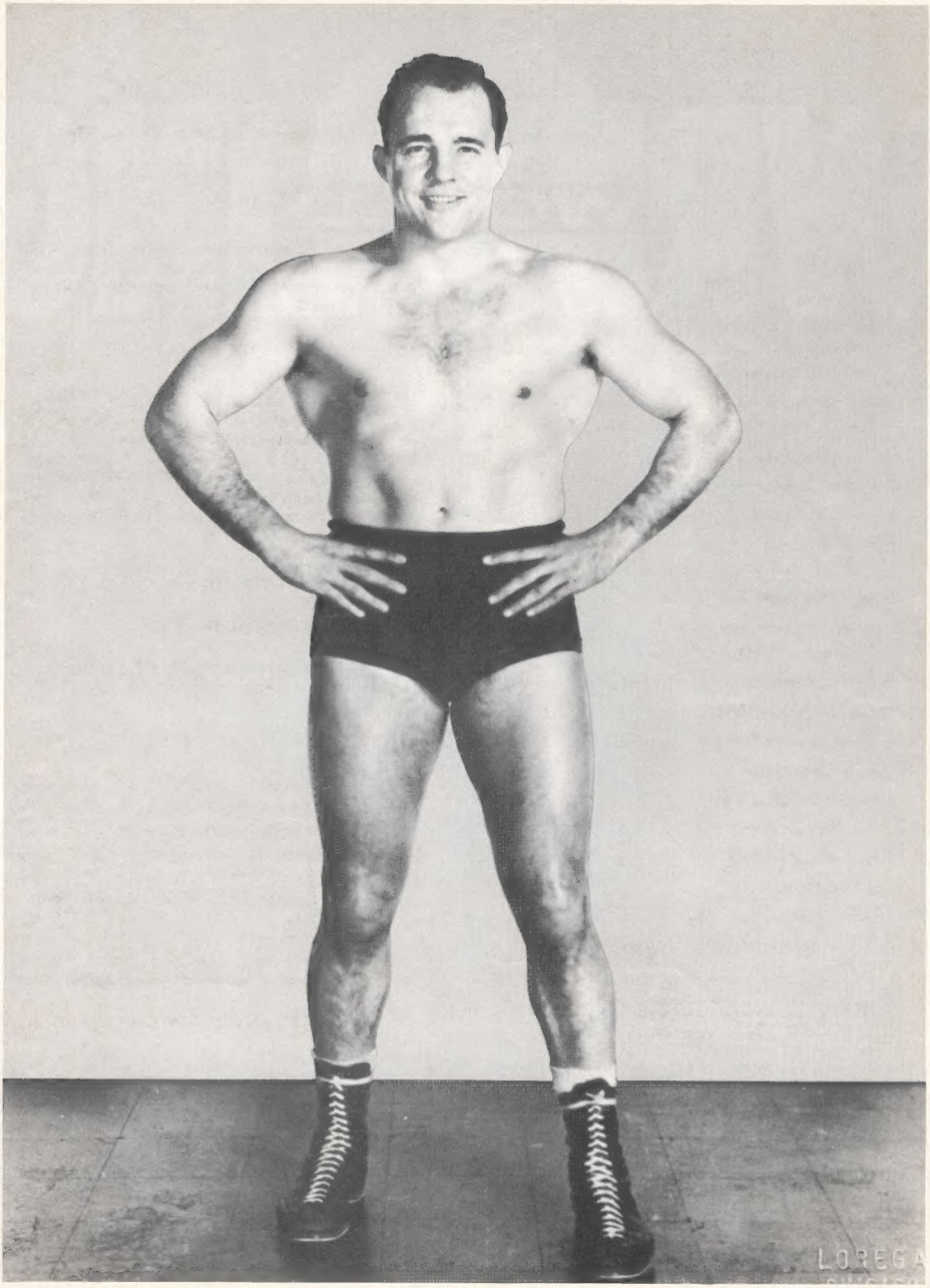
WORLD WRESTLING

PRINCE MAIAVA
SAMOA'S GIFT
TO WRESTLING



VERNE GAGNE

WRESTLING WORLD

VOL. 1 JULY, 1954 NO. 4

OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED AS THE AUTHENTIC PUBLICATION OF INTERNATIONAL WRESTLING

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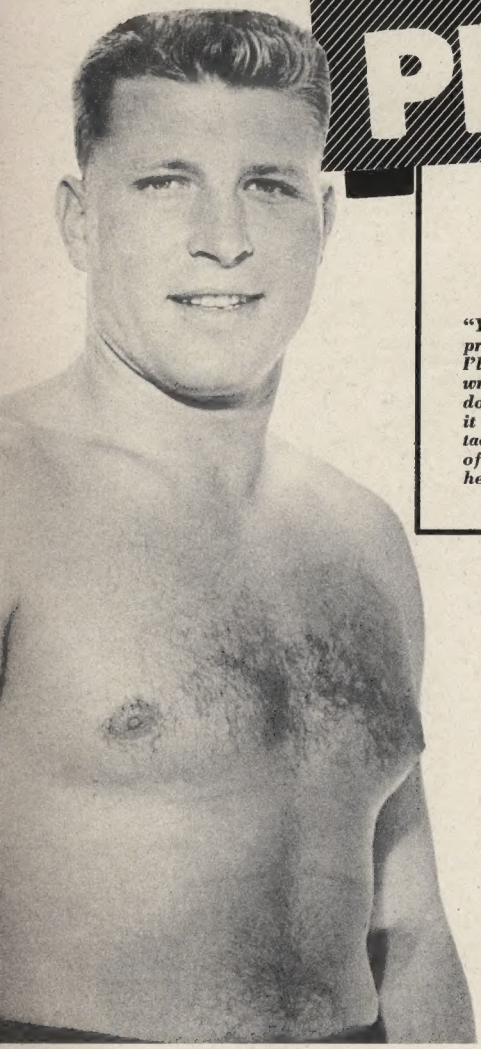
WILBUR SNYDER

New Wrestling PHENOM



What Champion Lou Thesz Thinks of Wilbur Snyder

"Young Wilbur Snyder, is by far the best young prospect I've seen in wrestling in the last three years. I'll predict Wilbur will be one of the top five men in wrestling within the next two years. Just mark that down and hold me to it, for I know the Kid has what it takes to make a great wrestler. He uses flying tackle, kangaroo kicks, and all the spectacular types of wrestling that captures the fancy of fans wherever he wrestles."

BY NED CRONIN
Sports Editor Los Angeles Daily News

Not since Sitting Bull scored his decisive, one-fall victory over Gen. Custer in their well-known catch-as-catch-can scalping bee has a man captured such instantaneous, nationwide attention on the field of combat as that achieved by Wilbur Snyder, the young West Coast wrestling phenom from Van Nuys, California.

In two appearances on the Columbia Broadcasting System's coast-to-coast wrestling telecast originating at the Hollywood Legion Stadium on Saturday afternoons, Snyder did more to establish himself as the leading contender for Lou Thesz' NWA heavyweight crown than 10 years of competition would have netted him in the era when mat accomplishments were carried across the country via the old word-of-mouth system.

The first time Snyder came into national focus was when he got in front of a CBS camera crew at the Hollywood arena and proceeded to score an upset victory over Lord Blears, who is regarded as better than a green hand at fending off menacing gestures offered by strong-armed opponents.

That was a signal accomplishment, since it amounted to an ascent of no mean proportions on the climb up the wrestling ladder. Bait was cast in Wilbur's direction by some of the outstanding promoters in the country, with the hope that Snyder would nibble at a rather luke warm lucrative lure and hie himself Eastward for further quests of fame and fortune.

He chose to remain in his own bailiwick, however. The wisdom of his decision manifested itself on the afternoon of March 27. This time, the powerful young heavyweight found himself in the same ring with the master—Lou Thesz, himself. When he crawled into the battle area and faced "The Big Cat", there were many

Wilbur Snyder makes a Big Hit In Thrilling Match with Thesz

among the vast army of CBS TV hookup viewers and first-hand patrons who concluded that here was another lamb being led to the slaughter.

What happened was wrestling's answer to the boomerang.

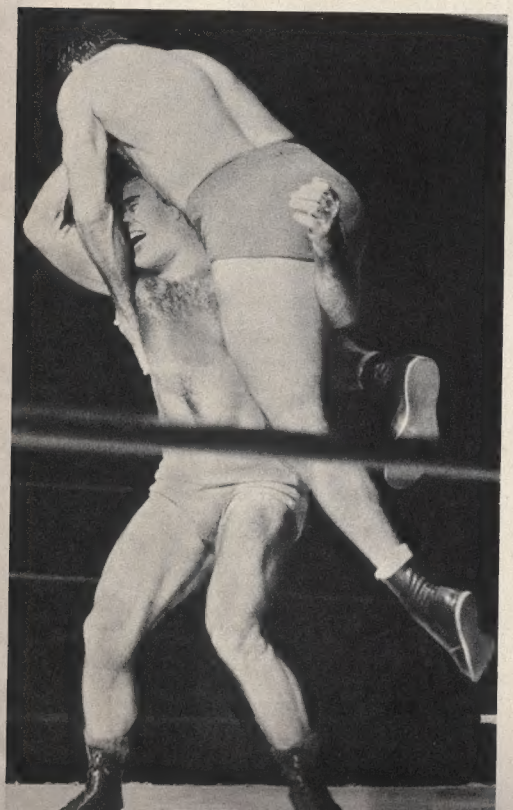
Instead of being a soft touch for the titleholder, Snyder turned out to be a veritable lion. A lion with his tail in Thesz' hand, and with Lou being unable to let go. He also was unable to tie it into a knot.

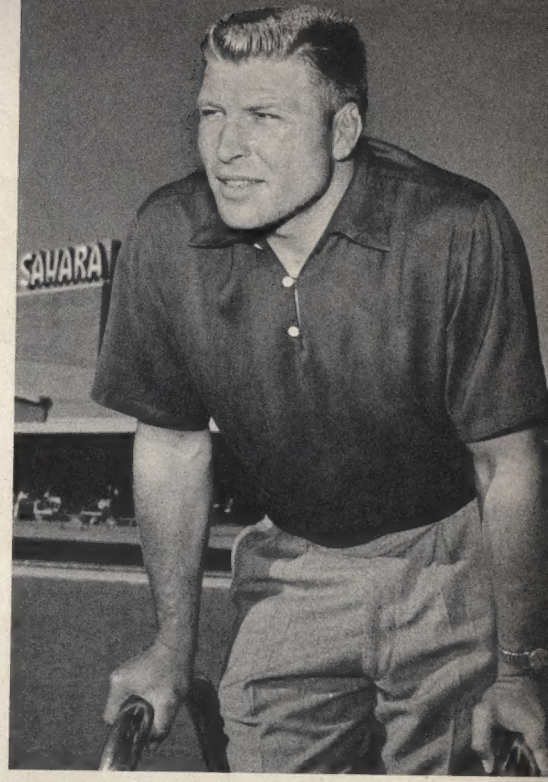
For a full hour the two of them put on one of the most sensational matches ever held and at the end of the hour allocated to the program they were dead even, not to mention dead tired.

Snyder won the first fall with a series of body smashes and finished off the champion when he caught Thesz bouncing off the ropes and delivered him a shoulder shot in the midriff that had the kick of a howitzer in it. A simple body press followed, and Lou was in the embarrassing position of being one fall in arrears with the clock running out on him.

When action resumed, Thesz again found himself with all he could handle. But this time it was Snyder who bounded off the barriers and headed straight into trouble. With a superhuman effort, Lou managed to

Snyder trying crotch hold on Lou Thesz





Wilbur at pool of the Sahara Hotel

gain his feet for the split-second it requires him to tee off a drop kick.

The champion rammed both shoes into Snyder's muscle-flat stomach until the soles of his feet must have scuffed on Wilbur's backbone. Snyder went down and Thesz plopped on him for the fall that squared things off.

During the third session, Lou grabbed Snyder around the middle from behind and attempted an outside loop. They both spun backwards and landed heavily on the mat. This was the same maneuver with which Thesz put Baron Leone out of commission in their famous, record-breaking outdoor shot in Los Angeles that drew $125,000.

But Snyder was made of sterner stuff. If he was stunned, so was Thesz, and for a couple of anxious moments either of them could have been had if the other had possessed the strength and consciousness to crawl over and stretch across a prostrate body.

They both regained their feet at the same time. Snyder was the quicker to revive and threw Thesz to the canvas. Lou managed to elevate his shoulders and hold them a few inches from the floor until the bell sounded to end the match.

Almost immediately, the telephone at the Hollywood Legion Stadium all but rang itself off the wall. Promoters demanded Snyder's services, but this time they weren't dangling merely an opportunity for the young man to improve his standing in the wrestling fraternity.

What they wanted now was a rematch. The offer made by Al Haft of Ohio is typical. He wanted to guar-

antee a $10,000 purse if he could promote the rematch in one of three cities—Columbus, Cincinnati or Cleveland. Other propositions were in the same category.

All of which means that Snyder is now the most widely-discussed individual in wrestling, with the possible exception of Champion Lou Thesz.

More amazing is the fact that he has been wrestling professionally for only a year and a half. On the face of it, this is a fantastic turn of affairs that he should be able not only to hold his own but to put the fear of defeat in Lou Thesz, with 18 years of top-notch grappling under his belt and the experience of having met opponents of all shapes and sizes and under every conceivable condition.

That year and a half business is a fooler, however. Snyder has a most imposing record as an amateur. Added to that is the fact that he is an exceptionally apt pupil who has studied under and worked with the most competent instructors in the game. Perhaps his greatest asset is his ability to assimilate knowledge and adapt it to his own peculiar physical attributes.

At 25 years of age, Snyder weighs a solid 235 fat-free pounds and stands 6 feet 3 inches. He wrestled four years in high school, where he also was acclaimed the best tackle in prep school ranks in the Los Angeles metropolitan area, which encompasses hundreds of would-be gridiron greats.

Universities were quick to get on friendly terms with this behemothic young pigskin artist, and made their passes all the more attractive with offers of substantial monetary aid.

Snyder finally settled on the University of Utah, but declines to state whether he enrolled there simply because he liked the place or grew to love it for reasons more commercial.

In any event he was a four letterman, excelling in football, basketball, baseball and track. Meanwhile, he was the mainstay of the wrestling team and in the process developed a strong affection for the game. Snyder was drafted by the Los Angeles Rams professional football team, but like many others, jumped to the Canadian League to play for the Edmonton team.

Along about this stage of the game, Sandor Szabo, himself a three-time world's heavyweight champion, saw Snyder in action on the mat, liked his style and offered to teach him the manual intricacies of the sport. as time went on, Szabo, who maintains a wrestling school in Los Angeles, took a personal interest in Wilbur and devoted all the time possible towards improving the youngster's mat technique.

Another instructor under whom Snyder studied was Hugh Nichols, the promoter at the Hollywood Legion Stadium and in his palmier days the greatest light-heavyweight of his time. Nichols taught Snyder the moves that stood him in such good stead when he was active in the ring. Another who had a hand in Snyder's schooling was Stanley Pinto, who is recognized as an outstanding teacher.

The result of the combined efforts of all these instructors is the hailing of Snyder as the greatest heavyweight prospect to hit the mat in the last 25 years.

An intelligent young man with great natural ability, Snyder is unusually agile, has a great sense of balance and leverage and remarkable reflexes. Perhaps the secret weapon that has contributed so much to Wilbur's success is that he does not specialize in any one particular finishing hold. As a consequence, his opponent never knows what to expect, since he is deprived of the advantage of knowing that under a given set of circumstances, Snyder will come up with a certain hold he believes will prove the clincher.

It is suicidal to anticipate Wilbur. One time he will use the drop kick, another time the flying tackle, a third time an unbreakable leg lock that leads either to submission or a broken shaft. Name the hold and Snyder's got it.

And if anybody is going to take away Thesz's crown, Snyder has what it takes to get it.

"CYCLONE" ANAYA

One of the finest wrestlers to come out of Mexico is Jesus "Cyclone" Anaya. Born in Guadalajara in the year 1921, Anaya started wrestling as an amateur at the age of twenty. Four years later, when he had won all existing titles in his native country, he decided to come to the United States and compete for world laurels. Appearing first in Chicago, he met most of the outstanding champions and challengers, and wrestled to a draw with Lou Thesz and The Mighty Atlas.

Anaya possesses a perfectly developed body, which he attributes to the fact that his parents were physical education instructors in Mexico. They used all their scientific knowledge and muscular know-how to help their son develop his body and stamia for future active competition in various sports such as basketball, baseball and soccer, in which he competed frequently, and with great success.

It's a pleasure to watch him in the ring, as his muscles move in perfect coordination, every movement depicting his gracefulness. Powerful and light of foot, he is always dangerous—especially when his fiery Latin temperament is aroused by the rough tactics used sometimes by his opponents, who always regret this display of villainy against the fast-moving "Cyclone."

As a scientific wrestler he is in a class by himself, and is one of the formost exponents of the dreaded Cobra Twist, also known as the abdominal stretch—the only hold that most experts agree is impossible to get out of.

The "Cyclone" appears frequently in Dory Detton's territory, particularly in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where he is a great favorite with the crowds at the Armory and with the viewers of the local television station K.O.A.T. Albuquerque is well established as a grapplers' town and draws consistently in the neighborhood of five to six thousand fans a week to its wrestling shows.

Anaya has held various titles in this country, foremost being the midwest heavyweight championship, which he won from Walter Palmer, and later had to give up because of a back injury. He returned to Mexico to recuperate and look after his interests in a chain of creameries which he operates there. Upon his return to the ring he campaigned in Texas, where he soon won the heavyweight championship of that state.

He competes in both the Junior Heavyweight division and the unlimited Heavyweight class, and to date has shown willingness to meet all comers. Among the ring greats he has defeated are Baron Von Poppenheim, Danny Pletches, Walter Palmer, and Danny McShain, whom he beat on August 28, two weeks after McShain lost his Junior Heavyweight title to Baron Michele Leone in Memphis, Tennessee.

Weighing 210 pounds, standing 5 feet 11 inches, at the age of 31, Jesus Anaya has had remarkable success as a wrestler. During his ring career he has met the cream of the crop and has been skillful enough to win 80% of his bouts.

"There's no sport like wrestling," declares this handsome Latin. "I want to stick with it always." He plans to retire from the ring at 40, and slip on the mantle of a promoter of this sport he loves the best.

TAG INDIANS

Big Noise in South

CHIEF DON BIG KETTLE

CHIEF DICK BIG KETTLE

Chief Don Big Kettle and Chief Dick Big Kettle are sons of the famous Iroquois Chief Richard Big Kettle, who is known throughout the Indian tribes of America and Canada. These famous sons of an equally famous father, are the claimants to the Indian tag team championship of America, and as they claim, the are the real American tag team champions.

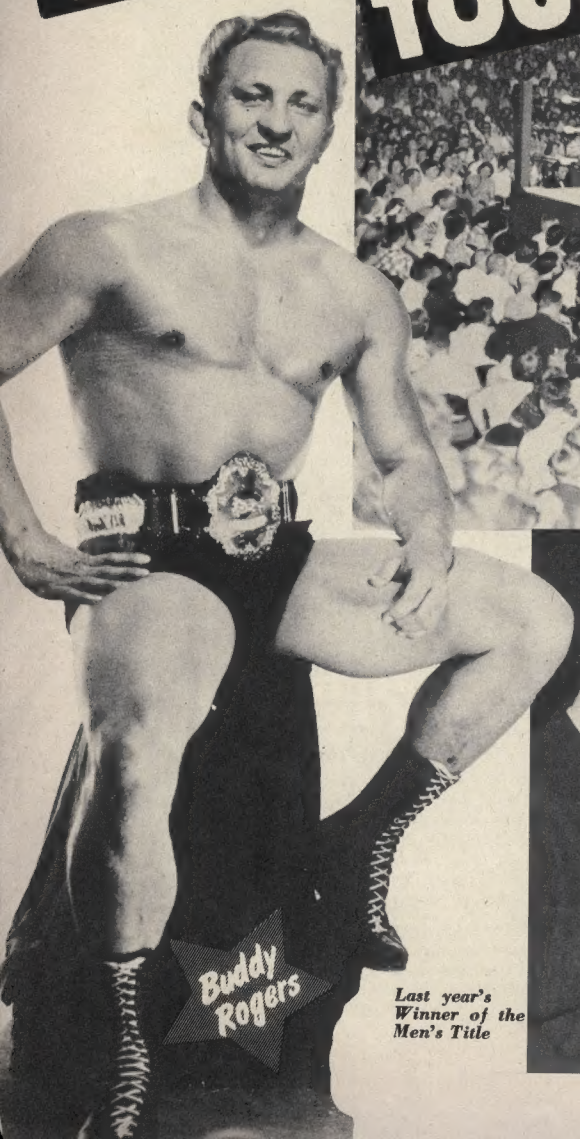
"These two bruisers tip the scales at 250 pounds, for Don" explains Paul Jones, Georgia wrestling promoter, "and 245 pounds for Dick, with Don standing six foot even and his brother six foot, one and one-half inches. They have proven to be one of the most colorful tag team combinations to hit the American mat, with each wearing the wartime regalia of the Iroquois tribe.

'These famous red men, who revert back to the savagery of their tribe, do not talk the white man's language while in the ring, but they beat out their messages and send their signals by the tom-tom. They are well aware that no one can savvy their tom-tom talk. Both brothers use the same hold to win and this hold is something that has never before been seen in American mat wars. They call their hold, 'The Iroquois Chop.'

"Both men are natural athletes and Dick makes all of his Indian garments, while Don is one of the greatest bareback riders in the world.

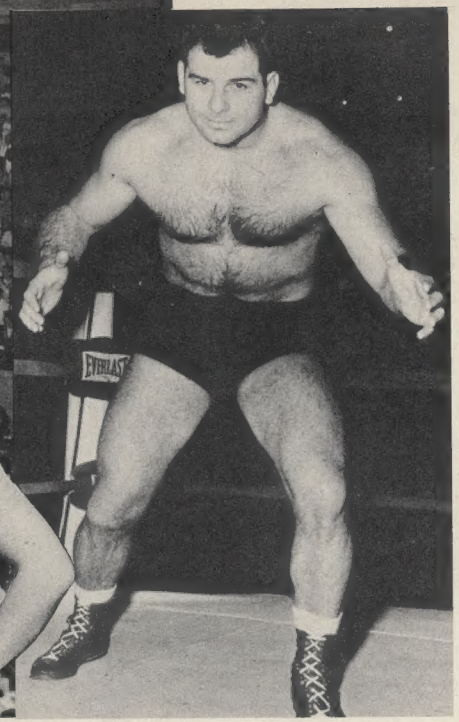
Never has wrestling seen anything more spectacular than the real American tag team champions, The Iroquois Chiefs, Don and Dick Big Kettle!

T.V. MAT TITLE TOURNAMENT



Last year's Winner of the Men's Title

Neal Van Ells interviews Al Haft on the opening of WLW-TV wrestling tournament



Joe Tangaro, will try for the $6,000 Prize money.

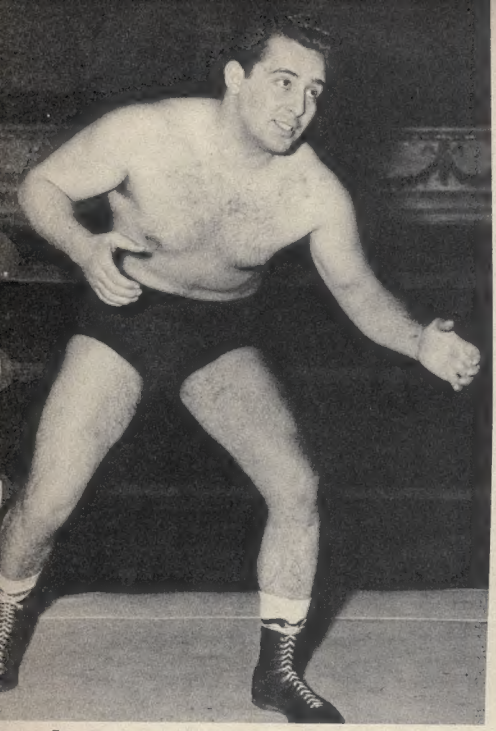
Lee Chona LaClare of France

Last year's winner of the Women's Title

For the past several years, WLW has sponsored an elimination wrestling tournament for both men and women, in major cities of the midwest under the promotorial guidance of Al. Haft. Each succeeding year has demonstrated the public's enormus interest in the tourney and last year the largest turnout was reached since the inception of the idea when 16,000 fans turned out for the finals to jam the Cincinnati Gardens in Cincinnati, Ohio where the finals were held.

The interest is so great that last year for instance, special trains were run from Columbus, Dayton, Cleveland, Toledo and other parts of the State. There was not a single ticket to be had three weeks before the matches took place, and this year, judging from present indications, even a greater turnout was assured for the finals in Dayton University Fieldhouse on May 22nd.

With the passing of the weeks and the elimination of many of the original entries, the interest grows bigger and bigger, and in the closing weeks there generally is a stampede for tickets for the big day when the old or new TV champions will be crowned. The reward for the winners make it well worth while going after. The first



Guy Brunette, Tangaro's tag team partner

Don Eagle will go after Buddy Rogers' scalp

prize is a pot of gold amounting to $6,000 for the winner in the men's division and a similar amount for the women's division.

Last year's winners were Buddy Rogers in the men's division and Nell Stewart in the distaff division. Rogers and Nell Stewart, naturally entrants this year, of course they did not compete in the eliminations. Previous year's winners go in action only in the finals when the man and gal who survived weeks of tough competition to challenge, get the chance to make a stab at their TV crown and the $6000.00 which goes along with it.

This year was the largest entry for both men and women on record. No less than 75 men stars from all over the country entered and 30 women competitors were on hand to make a bid for Nell Stewart's TV title.

The moot question of TV and it's influence on wrestling for good or bad, which comes up so often as a topic of conversation among promoters and their patrons, really finds an answer in this annual TV tournament.

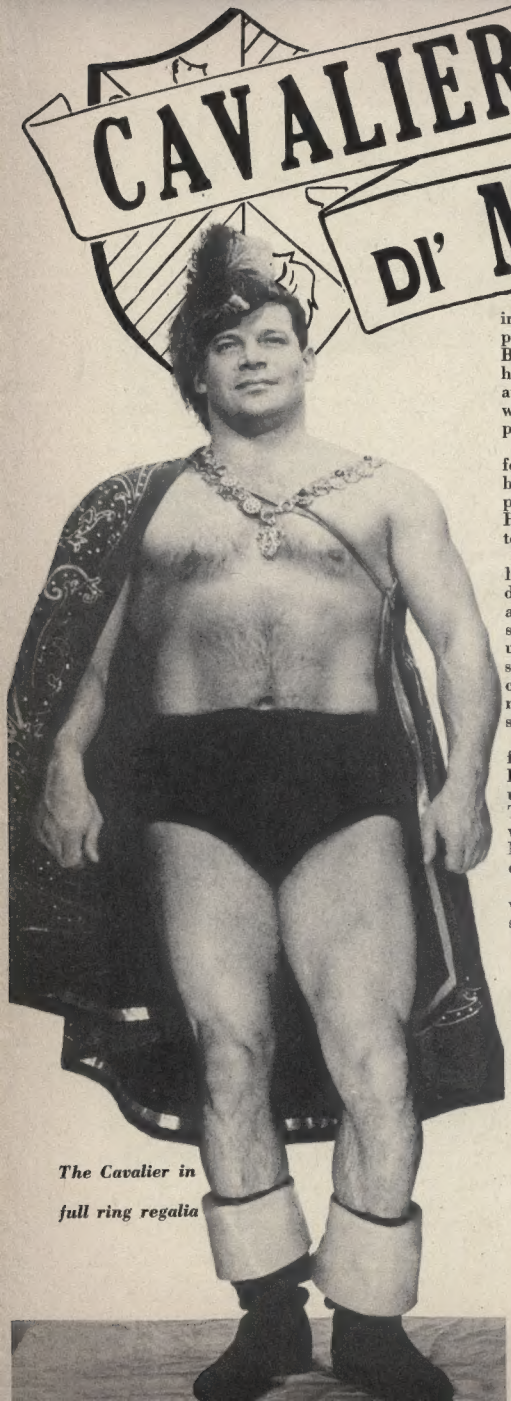
Crowd waiting for doors to open for tourney

Several interesting points developed with regard to this year's big TV championships. Buddy Rogers, defending champion, for instance, developed a new hold, a rather complex affair which is an improvement on the famous figure four. The hold is extremely effective and punishing. It isn't exactly the kind of hold which gives Buddy the opportunity to pin his opponent. Rather it is a submission hold. He made such good use of it recently that he forced Sandor Szabo into submission in their match at the Hollywood Stadium, when Rogers made his first appearance in Hollywood, California, the New Wrestling Capital of the World.

Don Eagle looms as a serious threat for Rogers' title. The Mohawk Indian has developed his Indian deathlock hold, so that now it is a very dangerous weapon in the hands of the mighty Indian. Don Eagle says the origin of the Indian death-lock is very old. It was first used by the Mohawks as a means of keeping their prisoners from escaping. They merely twisted the unfortunate one's legs around a log and left him there.

In the women's division of the Tournament, Nell Stewart, last year's winner, faced stiff competition because, thirty lasses entered the tourney, the largest number of lady grapplers listed since the Tournament's inception five years ago. Many new lady grapplers have come along in the past twelve months, amongst them Lee Chemo La Claire, who constitutes a real threat to Nell's laurels. The vivacious newcomer who has taken her place among the leading women wrestlers in this country, has her eye on that $6000.00 pot of gold which she aims to grab, along with the TV title held by La Stewart.

CAVALIER DI' MILANO



The Cavalier in full ring regalia

Records show that the Cavaliers di Milano cut a dashing figure in Italian history, but their direct descendant prefers to call himself just plain Frank Milano, of Brooklyn, N. Y., where he was born 28 years ago. Frank, however, admits he has nothing but admiration for his ancestors, in fact he has an exact replica of the cape worn by the Cavaliers, also the family crest which he proudly displays.

Physical prowess seems to have been the family's forte and Frank certainly compares favorably with the best among his ancestors. He stands six feet, weighs 240 pounds and stacks up well among heavyweight mat-men. He belongs to the younger school of wrestlers, who aim to become champion in the not too distant future.

Frank didn't start out with the idea of being a wrestler, that came later. His first ambition was to be a doctor. He attended Adams School in Ozone Park, N.Y., and later Columbia University, but didn't finish what he started out to do, and after two years at Columbia, gave up the idea of a medical profession. His devotion to sports in general was the reason for abandoning medicine. Frank is a crack shot, one of his proudest achievements is winning the New York City Rifle championship, in which all the principal High Schools participate.

After leaving Columbia, Frank played pro-football for the Boston Yankees, also for the Brooklyn Dodgers. Done with football, Brooklyn's Cavalier of Sport took up boxing in the heavyweight division at 195 pounds. The beak-busting business however, was interrupted when the war broke out, and we next find him in the Maritime Service, stationed at Sheepshead Bay, headquarters of Jack Dempsey.

At the conclusion of hostilities, Frank decided on a wrestling career and apparently found the spot best suited to his physical talents.

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EXCLUSIVE!

BANZAI!!

Bobby Bruns Sets New Mat Attendance Records in His Sensational Tour of Japan

By Al Mayer

This is a story as up-to-date and modern as the H-Bomb itself. It is the story of a project now accomplished, which a short decade ago could only have been visualized as a dream. The master mind behind it was Bobby Bruns, a former world wrestling champion, one time captain of the U. S. Olympic water polo team, a graduate of Illinois University, and intimate friend of the martyred Mayor Cermac of Chicago, who gave his life in saving that of the late President Roosevelt from attemped assassination in Miami, Florida.

Bruns conceived the idea of bringing Japan into the orbit of big time wrestling through the medium of International Professional Wrestling, which will bring at regular intervals American wrestlers to Japan to compete in championship contests, and vice versa. The first series of these international matches was concluded on March 9th of this year, when Bruns introduced the Sharpe Bros—Ben and Mike—to Japanese wrestling fans in a record-breaking tour never equalled in Japan, and that goes for the tour of the Giants and the famous Globe Trotters.

Bobby Bruns and the Sharpe Bros. left Honolulu, Hawaii by air on February 16th and opened the tour in Tokyo Feb. 19th. Three consecutive nights of wrestling were given in Tokyo—Feb. 19, 20, and 21. On Feb. 23 they were in Kumamoto, on the 24th Kokura, on the 26th and 27th in Osaka, on the 28th in Kobe, on March 1 in Gifu, on the 2nd in Nagoya, on the 3rd in Shizuoka, 4th in Utsunomiya, 6th in Tokyo, 7th in Yokahama and on the 9th of March for the final performance in Tokyo

BOBBY BRUNS

Rikidozan and Kimura just after their one-hour draw with Mike and Ben Sharpe in Tokyo

Crippled children in Polio Hospital getting autographs from Bobby, Mike and Ben Sharpe

Welcoming parade, with Ben Sharpe and Japan's champion in first car, Bruns and Mike Sharpe in second car. Nearly a million cheered them.

again. On the 13th of March they were back home in San Francisco!

Here are some of the records: In exactly 26 days from the day they left Honolulu to their return in San Francisco, a little less than a month, they travelled 25,000 miles. Bruns, the Sharpe Bros., and their Japanese opponents, who included such champions as Kito Kimura, the great Yamaguchi and of course Rikidozan, gave fifteen performances which attracted better than 200,000 paid customers with millions more viewers who saw them on television. Throughout the tour, crowds began to line up at eight o'clock in the morning for the show which didn't start until 6 p.m.!

No visiting athletes to Japan were so royally received or entertained as were Bruns and his wrestlers. Ticker tape parades were arranged for them in every city they visited. Receptions, teas and parties were showered on them together with gifts of all kinds. The "Old Warrior," as the Japanese affectionately call him. Bruns received gifts, from Governor's of Prefectures, which included silk Kimonos, antique vases, etc. and on the last night in Tokyo, Bobby was presented with a Japanese Warrior's helmet of gold, steel and enamel.

The colorful Sharpe Bros., made a big hit in Japan. They are the type of wrestlers the Japanese like to see in action. The Sharpes and other name wrestlers will be selected each year to make the profitable trip to Japan, now so thoroughly organized by Bobby Bruns.

Plans are now being worked out to include the Phillipines in the new set-up, so that it can be included in next year's tour. All professional wrestling in Japan is now under the supervision and control of the Japanese Pro-Wrestling Association, with a Commissioner of Wrestling and Chairman of Rules completing the authoritative governing body of the sport. If The Philippines join up, and it looks extremely likely, they will appoint their own Commissioners, who in turn will co-operate with the Japanese solons.

From this end of the organization all wrestlers will be booked through Al. Karasick's Honolulu Booking Office, while Japanese wrestlers coming to the U. S. will also be booked exclusively for American engagements through Al. Karasick's office.

Although the present tour was accomplished in less than a month, the ground work and everything which

Japanese film stars greeting the wrestlers at the airport with bouquets and a trophy

went to make it a success was the result of more than four years work. Bruns promoted in Japan before, in fact he was there for more than a year, developing Japanese wrestlers and interesting the Japanese in the modern style of American grappling. Previous to that the Japanese were mainly interested in Judo and Ju-Jiutsu wrestling. They still make use of the art but they have competition now, because most American stars are also judo and ju-jiutsu experts. Bruns, for one, is conversant in both styles and also Sumo wrestling. Besides that Bobby speaks Japanese fluently and it is his knowledge of the language which aided him in bringing the new organization to a successful conclusion.

Only the best Japanese wrestlers, those who have either defeated top American stars in Japan, or else have shown outstanding ability, will be selected to make the American trip. They will first go to Honolulu, where they will be tested with top notch American stars. Al. Karasick brings the best men to Hawaii for his regular weekly shows at the Civic Auditorium, and if the Orientals are able to make good with these men, then Al's office will book them to other promoters on the mainland desiring their services.

Count Yakeda, President of Japan Pro-Wrestling Association, and membrs toast Bruns & Sharpe Bros.

Risko Setting New Attendance Records In Canton Turnouts

PROMOTER

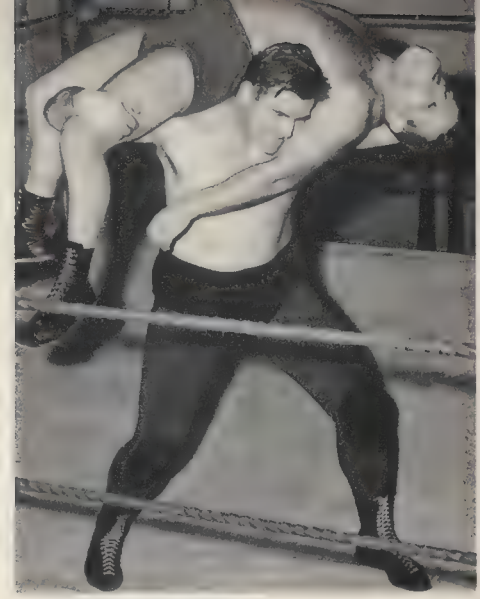
VINCE RISKO

There's no secret about promoter Vince Risko's success in Canton, Ohio. "Give fans what they want to see" says Vince, "and they'll flock in. After all, fans are pretty good matchmakers. They know their wrestling and they have a knack of picking wrestlers likely to put on a good scrap." That this is the right formula is shown by the record-breaking attendances which he has drawn all season.

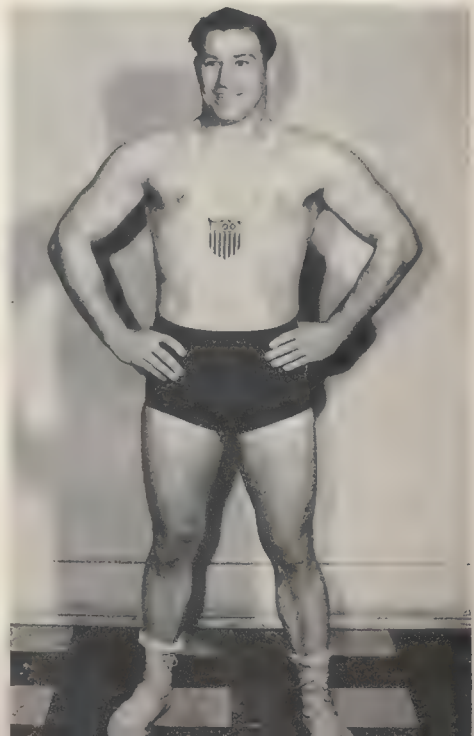
But there's something else in Vince Risko's promotorial book which other promoters might well emulate, and that is his refusal to put on a wrestling show unless it is the right kind. He promotes every two weeks at Memorial Hall and sometimes only once a month, and when he does his customers know it's worth turning out to see. This season he has brought to Canton only the very top matmen in the business. Champion of the world Lou Thesz, Buddy Rogers, Don Eagle, Big Bill Miller, The Great Kato, Andre Drapp and many others, have been his headliners, and he aims to keep it that way, starting again in the Fall.

Now that he has made Canton wrestling conscious, his next step is to try and develop local talent, if that can be done. With this in mind he interested John Kostas, former McKinley High football star, in becoming a wrestler. Kostas already has made his debut on one of Risko's shows and maybe the big 240-pounder will make the grade, time will tell. Anyway, Vince is in a happy position where he can start a lad who shows real promise on his own shows, and see that he is not overmatched at the start.

Many wrestlers are college men who have played football, and three of them, that we can think of, reached stardom and the world championship.



Big Bill Miller Demonstrating back-breaker hold



Jim LaRock, 1952 Olympic mat team star

Northern *Noggin Knockers*

All-around athlete Gino Martinelli, another prime favorite with Hager's fans, is an international ring celebrity who has won many titles throughout world

George Dusette, powerful French-Canadian from Montreal, is a consistent top drawer attraction among Pacific Coast and Northwestern Junior heavyweights

Grinning Jack Kiser is a top contender for the world lightheavyweight title, is a speedster and an outstanding exponent of the spectacular dropkick

Tony Baillargeon, one of the six powerful brothers from Quebec is coming along in the Northwest like a house afire — or, should we say, a Baillargeon aflame

Logger Larsen, a bearded giant from the backwoods section of British Columbia is a bona fide woodsman who is most popular with rural fans in Hager's domain

Victorio Ochoa, heavyweight champion of Spain, was imported from his native land by Hager. This bristling Basque has caught on in great fashion in this country

Wrestling in Virginia and The Carolinas

PRINCE MAIAVA
Samoa's Gift to Wrestling

How Maiava looks when he enters the wrestling ring

Titles of nobility, genuine or otherwise, are not novelties among wrestlers, but when the real thing comes along in the person of Prince Maiava, it's something well worth writing about. The Prince is a giant of a man, stands 6 ft. 3 inches, weighs 230 pounds and is 26 years old. He was born in Savii, principal island of the Samoan archipelago, but left it twelve years ago to become head chief of the Bola tribe in the Fijis, where he ruled over his people, not in name only, but in fact.

It's a pity Somerset Maughan overlooked him when he was in Samoa working out the plot for his famous story and play "Rain", because, had he come across Maiava, he surely would have found him colorful enough to provide material for another one of his famed stories of the South Seas. The Prince is a staunch believer in the ageless customs of his people and tries to live up to them as much as possible in a strange land thousands of miles from his homeland.

He is very fussy about his diet, which consists exclusively of fish, red snapper preferred, which he eats raw. This is unlikely to become popular here, but it's a common custom in the Orient. The Japanese like their fish raw too, and they thrive on it. He is also very fond of dancing, which he does on a bed of nails, twirling a pair of three-foot Bolo knives meanwhile.

His general appearance, together with his native costumes, which so far he has refused to part with, leaves the onlooker somewhat awed. His shock of black hair is thick on top of his pate, then unfurls in long tresses falling over his shoulders. There's enough of it, if shorn, to thatch a hut. Wrestlers who like to indulge in hair-pulling will not find it helpful to try it on the Prince—it's so heavily matted they wouldn't be able to get their hands inside of it, much less pull it.

His street wear is strictly native, he hasn't changed it and apparently has no intention of doing so. One of the reasons may be that the many charms and good luck pieces which he wears on his person are all mixed up with tribal superstitions in which he believes. Anyway, he values them highly and will never part with them.

Maiava all dressed up and ready to start his ceremonial dance on a bed of sharp nails. "Look Ma, no shoes!" Just tough feet

At right, Maiava is ready to tackle a wild boar or any other wild animal

Here Maiava gets in a little drum practice.

Among these is a headress, made of human hair several hundred years old and handed down to him from his royal father. Around his neck he wears a necklace of wild boar tusks, from boars slain with his own Bolo knives. To complete the picture, feathers of South Sea birds decorate one arm and one leg.

All this doesn't mean that Prince Maiava is a sort of "Wild Man from Borneo". On the contrary, he is well educated man, well read, with a keen sense of humor. During the war he held a post of responsibility with the U. S. Marines in the Solomons. Acting as an official war scout, he was wounded four times while carrying out dangerous missions through dense jungles. He served with distinction, often returned with valuable information for our side, and was instrumental in saving hundreds of lives. He showed an exceptional flair for discovering ambushes and warning our officers in time.

He was brought to the States by a character known as "Cocoanut Willie", right name Harold Walker, who was tipped off about him by the globe-trotting Schnabels—Hans and Fritz—who first saw him in the Fijis, where the two likeable roughnecks were wrestling at the time. Willie hopped a plane pronto and had little difficulty in convincing the Prince to make the trip and embark on a wrestling career.

Maiava likes America; the only fault he finds is that men and women wear too many clothes. His number one dislike is shoes. He is accustomed to walking barefooted, or on occasions, in thin sandals. One of the first wrestling matches he had in this country was in Amarillo, Texas. It was a bitter cold day and "Cocoanut Willie" decided his charge should wear regular American shoes. It so happens that Maiava wears size 12 triple E, an exceptionally large size hard to find in any shoestore. Willie found one however, but when the Prince came to the Arena that night he was shoeless. He had tossed them down a snowbank.

His second top peeve is pillows. They're far too soft for him. He carries his own pillow and says it is much more comfortable than any he has found here. That we suppose is largely a matter of opinion, because the Prince's pillow is made of solid mahogany!

Although he has been in the country less than six months, this strange man has uncorked a brand of wrestling bordering on sensationalism. He presents a far different appearance in the ring than he does in his native togs on the street. When he strips down for action you behold a physical marvel, wide shouldered, whose rippling muscles and lithe movements remind you of some stalking wild beast of his native jungle. His speed is bewildering. It has confused all his opponents so far. He seems to be everywhere at one time and what is particularly disconcerting to his foemen, is that he doesn't make use of any orthodox wrestling holds and therefore his moves cannot be anticipated.

So far he hasn't developed any particular hold with which he defeats his opponents and judging from what has been seen of him in action, it doesn't seem likely that he will develop one. In the short time he has been in the U. S., he hasn't been matched with 'softies".

One of the more spectacular sides of the Prince in action, is his acrobatic style. He can jump, twist and vault over his opponent always landing on his feet like a cat. Nothing like it has been seen before, it surpasses all feats of acrobatics as displayed by present day specialists who make use of drop-kicks, flying scissors and other spectacular holds.

So far, Prince Maiava has been pitted against mat villains, the lads who are not too particular about wrestling rules. As he claims to have the hardest noggin in creation, billy goat tactics and head-on collisions would simply be fatal to his opponents. He wrestles barefooted, but don't tread on his feet because they are so tough, he wouldn't even feel the impact. That seems to take care of the villain type of grappler. How will he fare with the other type? The scientific boys, those who have made a life's study of leverage and other arts of bringing down strong men to their size. That's what everyone wants to know. That is why Prince Maiava is flooded with offers and challenges from all parts of the country. And also, that is what is making the new sensation from the jungles of the Solomons and the Fijis the most sensational mat star to hit this country in many a moon.

Joe Pazandak Explains Holds "Scientifically"

JOE PAZANDAK

Joe Pazandak, a powerfully built athlete who holds two degrees from the University of Minnesota, takes his wrestling scientifically. Joe believes every man has a maximum output of energy, and the theory behind wrestling is to make an opponent expend his energy while conserving your own.

Says Joe: "Wrestling holds are not designed to maim or torture an opponent. The idea is to apply them and force your opponent to burn up energy."

"For instance, a wrestler applying a simple wristlock, uses what we call 200 energy hours, but the opponent attempting to break it uses up something like 700 energy hours before he gets out of it, over say, a six-minute period. Consequently the wrestler who has saved himself and forced his opponent to use up stamina by break-up holds, should be the ultimate winner."

On the subject of the hammer-lock, Joe has this to say:

"Normally, the pain from a hammerlock is sharp and excruciating, However, a wrestler who is subjected to the hold three or four times a week, and often several times during a match, gets used to it. The pain, instead of being sharp like needles, becomes a dull ache as the nerves grow less and less sensitive after being subjected to leverage so frequently."

During the war Joe was with the 34th Division, spending most of his time in Africa and Italy. He saw active service at Cassion, Anzio and Salerno. Joe is independently well-off. He is a partner in the Pazandak Seed Company of Minneapolis and owns a large farm in North Dakota.

Pazandak demonstrating a punishing wristlock

Mexican Invasion

Luis Martinez from South of the Border, makes big hit in Texas

By Collier Parris

If you wear a pair of "made-in-Mexico" shoes or boots —and they are generally of top quality—chances are they were built in Leon Guanajuato, and an additional chance is that a cobbler named Martine had something to do with the building of the shoe.

That particular cobbler had something to do, too, with the building of one of the better young professional wrestlers to come out of the country we call South of the Border. He was, and is, the father of Luis Martinez (pronounced like Lu-ees' Mar-teen'-iss, with accents on the "ees" and the 'teen", not like "Louis Martin-ezz").

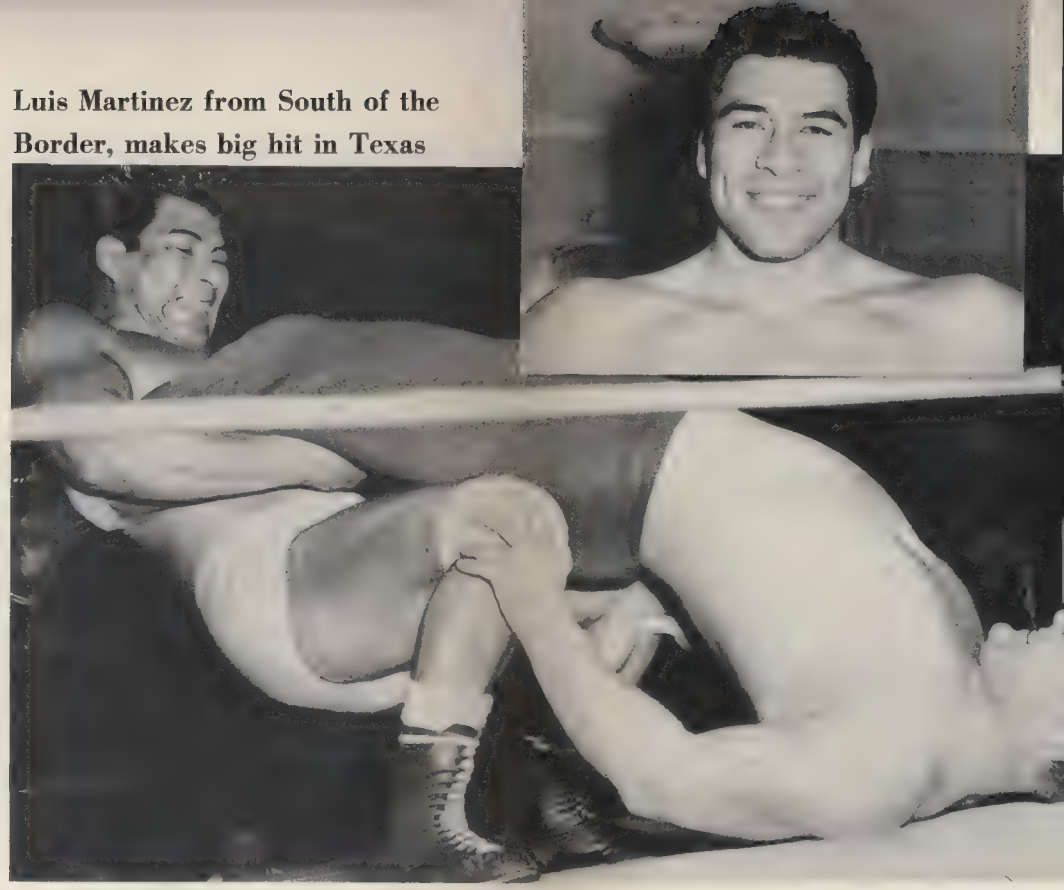
Not since the glory days of Gory Guerrero have wrestling fans of Texas and the mid-west noted a Latin- American athlete with as much poise, color, speed and general ability—and he has had only two years of real professional wrestling.

"My ambition, next to becoming a good wrestler, is to be a linquist," explains Martinez. "I continue to study English, German and French, and also to keep the Spanish pure."

Martinez began studying English in high school, continued it at University of Leon Guanajuato, and in the United States. There is very little accent in his English speaking.

"I was a little surprised when they asked me to join the army," Martinez grins, "because I wasn't even an U. S. citizen. After I had gone overseas they checked my citizenship, and said I didn't belong there and should never have been drafted in the first place. But they kept me on, as an anti-aircraft gunner most of the time.

"No, I didn't have any very close scrapes. Only thing, an enemy bomb went off near me and injured an ear drum. They penned me up in a hospital and while I was there they made me physical instructor at the general hospital base. I got a particularly big kick out of directing physical exercises for the very crippled men, the paraplegics."



Martha Raber, left, and Hazel Lassiter presenting Martinez with jacket from club members

Luis Martinez at left applying pressure on Tommy Martindale with his famous leg nelson"

Martinez, all this time was taking wrestling lessons from an old timer from Lithuania, Karl Pojello, who wrestled in the days of Sonnenberg. Ed Lewis, et al, but it wasn't until 1952 that Luis started his professional wrestling career.

His early professional work was in the Chicago area, then in other mid-west states. He first came to Texas in 1953, working in Dallas, Houston, Amarillo, Abilene, San Antonio, Fort Worth, El Paso, with side trips to Arizona, Oklahoma and New Mexico.

As for a home town, Martinez says that Leon Guanajuato is the base, but he is puzzled about naming a United States place of permanent address. "Let's just say that I'm of Latin-American descent, now a U. S. Citizen, and when I'm not on the road, Chicago would be called home."

Luis says the toughest man he ever wrestled was Gino Garibaldi. "But in this territory, the toughest is Dory Funk."

Martinez prefers to wrestle "clean," and he knows most of the legitimate holds and defenses. He uses a variety of legal holds, calls none his specialty. If he has a special hold, it's a sort of a side head-lock and body flip. He is quite adept at drop-kicking. When things get rough, he gets rough, too, and can swing a mean fist.

Smiling, pleasant, modest Martinez is a "fan" wrestler without a doubt, and he is bound to go places. He weighs 197, and says he can't go over that weight "without getting fat", but he looks heavier than 185. "I'll probably never make the super-heavyweight class", he smiles, "but I hope to do something in the junior heavyweight division."

According to Benny Wilson, wrestling promoter of Abilene, Texas, the Luis Martinez fan club has more than 800 members and when Luis wrestled Roy Shire in Dory Detton's Domain they presented him with a beautiful handmade jacket that cost the members $150. The presentation was made by Martha Raber, pres., and Hazel Lassiter, Club Sec'y. Benny sent along a clipping of Don Oliver's sprightly wrestling column in the Abiline Reporter-News, "Oliver's Twists", in which Don reports the wrestler's wife is not jealous of his "Fem Fans."

"Mrs. Martinez," writes Don, "keeping a careful eye on Mary Louise, 7, and Luiz, Jr., says she figures it's just like any other sport, and a wife has to take it. She's not jealous a bit. In fact, she likes to see fan club's like her husbands, figures they encourage him to do his best in the ring.

"His club members think their mat idol sometimes gets the bad end of the deal from the other fans at Fair Park arena, so they're banding together to give Martinez all the support necessary to spur him on to greater achievement. "Recently they had Luiz as a guest at a pink tea, and judging from the turnout in his honor, they're well on their way. If the youthful Mexican athlete reflects their confidence, he'll be in the 'major leagues' of wrestling in no time."

I guess Don is spelling the name the Mexican way, but Lus Martinez, the "one man Mexican invasion," seems to have taken Texas by storm!

Roy Welch's BOMBERS

Jack Welch can hold his own with any one

Triple mat action down in Tennessee

Down Tennessee way where they like their wrestling rough and ready, Promoter Roy Welch has gathered a number of mat villains who have made it possible for him to have a banner wrestling season.

Among these is Karl Kowalski, big 245-pound Polish giant whose background is as colorful as any wrestler in the business. He attended Cornell University where he distinguished himself on the gridiron. Then came the war and Kowalski attended officers' training school at Camp Davis, N. C. While playing football with fellow officers, he was injured and hospitalized for four months. He finally received his medical discharge in 1944. Following months of convalescing, he returned to football. He played with the Cleveland Rams with Bob Waterfield and in 1945 took the league championship.

Just a short eight years ago he joined up with pro-wrestlers. Plagued by a series of accidents, it looked for a time as if Kowalski would have to give up wrestling. Luckily he has shaken the jinx and seems headed for a brilliant mat career. The first of these unfortunate incidents occurred in his first year of pro-wrestling when

Tough Sailor Moran, likes to play rough

Karl Kowalski looks fierce, doesn't he?

a spectator stabbed him with a knife. The following year he broke his ankle and was out of wrestling for thirteen months. Back to mat wars he again ran foul of an irate customer which neccessitated another trip to the hospital.

That was the last of his misfortunes and Karl hopes he is free of them for good. Although he has many years of wrestling before him, Kowalski isn't overlooking the fact that the day must come when he will have to hang up his trunks. So he is looking ahead and laying plans. He runs a Fox Terrier Kennel and boasts of a champion male and female terrier with enough points for a championship. Meanwhile Kowalski hopes the boos of the crowd will keep on coming his way. He says they've already made him financially independent and hopes they eventually will make him rich.

Karl Kowalski however isn't the only rugged individual making good under Roy Welch's banner. Tough Sailor Moran from Kansas City Mo., is another who loves the mauling type of action. Moran started his wrestling several years back in Uncle Sam's Navy where he became all Navy champion. For the past three years he has been wrestling in the South and Southwest. During that time he has hung up an impressive string of victories with wins over tough boys like Bad Boy Brown; Tex Riley; Wild Red Berry, others.

Many fans no doubt remember Sailor Moran when he was wrestling on the Pacific Coast and his hectic matches with former champion Leroy McGuirk and Hugh Nichols. In his spare time Moran likes to play golf. How good is his game? Well, the sailor knows it's not the best in the world, but it's not the worst either!

Our story wouldn't be complete if it didn't include Jack Welch of Pawhuska, Oklahoma. Jack, of course, is a member of the well-known wrestling family which includes five wrestling brothers. Although a member of a distinguished wrestling family, it was sometime before he actually embarked on his professional mat career. Before that he tried his hand in the oilfields of Texas and Oklahoma, and later operated a fleet of trucks in Oklahoma.

The lure of the mat however was too strong and finally Jack wound up his business and joined the pros. His start, like Karl Kowalski, was on the unfortunate side. First a broken collar bone, then a wrenched back; it was all very discouraging, but Jack stuck to it and is now reaping his reward. Known for his clean tactics among a bunch of roughnecks, he has been able to withstand the storm by sheer heart and superior knowledge of wrestling holds. He has a tremendous following among wrestling fans, who are rooting for him to get a crack at the mat title.

ROSSI *RIDES* AGAIN

FEW wrestlers have managers, most of them being intelligent enough to conduct their own business affairs, training and travel intineraries without handing over a percentage of their pay to a man who does not take punishment physically.

However, most wrestlers agree that a really good manager is a genuine asset and they point to the success of the wrestlers handled by Count Pietro Rossi as proof.

Rossi has never taken a man under his wing unless he felt that the boy would benefit by the association and that Rossi himself would keep up his average of backing only the top men in the game. Not that they are top men when Rossi finds them, sometimes far from it, but he has the knack of being able to recognize talent even though it is hidden. And he knows how to develop that ability.

Rossi's biggest drawback is the fact that he puts a win for his man above everything, including his own popularity with the fans. And Rossi, himself once a matman, will often back his man physically when the going gets tough.

The Count's latest finds are Chris Tolos, whom Rossi has given the nickname of the Killer, and his brother, John. The capable Greek boys have been taught a lot by the colorful Count and the pair figure to make their mark together in the wrestling world.

"Chris is the next champion of the world," says the Count, who is particularly "high" on the Killer. "He is the champion right now only he can't get a match with the champion because Ed Lewis knows I never back a boy who doesn't have ability."

There have been a lot of good Greek wrestlers in the history of the mat game but the first man to come along in recent years who could eclipse George Zaharias, the famous Crying Greek, in roughness is the hulking heavyweight from Montreal, Canada, Chris Tolos, according to Rossi.

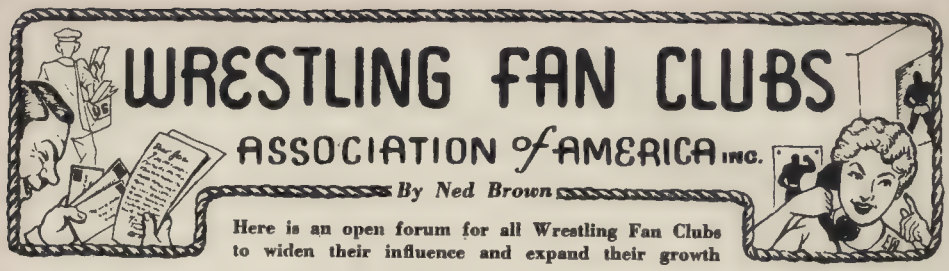
Tolos, who is currently operating out of Texas, was born in Athens and learned a lot about physical culture from men who prized the way the ancient Greeks lived. He learned his wrestling in the traditional Greco-Roman style but at an early age his family migrated to Canada and Chris infused the ancient ideas of his forefathers with the modern trend of the Canadians and Americans.

Chris was getting along as a better than average grappler until he teamed up with the mat managing Italian who has a reputation for shrewdness in picking his stable that is unmatched in the sport.

Rossi let Chris keep his knowledge of the scientific way to wrestle but insisted that the youngster learn the rough way to do things, too. At first Tolos recalled the glory that was Greece and refused to put his heart into it but when Rossi threatened to quit him cold unless he forgot his inhibitions, Tolos opened up with such success that he became tagged with the terrifying title of "Killer."

Now Tolos and Rossi make a team that is hard to whip with the Count calling the signals and the Killer putting them into operation. It could make a combination that will carry through to the world's title, the dream of both of them.

Rossi flanked by his new Greek Wrestlers, Cris (left) and John Tolos



It is the general practice for wrestling fan clubs to not only lionize and publicize their "honoraries", (the clubs' title for the wrestler in whose name their club is organized) but to fete him and shower him with presents from time to time.

But now along comes Gene Stanlee to reverse the process by making a gift to all the members of his numerous fan clubs, of which there are more than two score, comprising several thousand fans. It's a Fourth of July gift, in the form of a copy of the Declaration of Independence, printed in the national colors, red, white and blue.

Superimposed in the middle of the certificate, is the pledge of allegiance to the flag, printed in red script, with a space at the bottom for the signature of the recipient, and below the facsimile signatures to the Declaration, between pictures of Stanlee at the left and President Eisenhower at the right, is the legend: Contributed by Gene "Mr. America" Stanlee, as an inspiration for the Youth of America to foster Americanism.

The certificate is 8½ by 11 inches in size, and is suitable for framing. I suppose Gene will distribute these certificates through the officers of his fan clubs, and will also carry them with him to give away to fans wherever he wrestles.

Please do not write to me or this magazine for copies, as we will not have any. This is strictly Mr. Stanlee's affair. He told me he was not doing this for publicity, but purely out of a feeling of patriotism, which in these times, he feels, should be stimulated in the youngsters of our country.

So much for that!

Other visitors from out of town included Pat Schnee, pert publisher of Publicity Ink, and Mrs. Ruth Lunel, of Toronto, Canada, president of Steve Stanlee's Companions, Ruth reported that her club has grown into one of the biggest in North America, and it is probably the oldest of wrestling clubs.

Incidentally, I've a correction to make here in the roster, published in this edition. Ella Rowan, of 727 Caperton St., Houston, Texas, advises me that the Rito Romero club president as listed, should be eliminated, for Gloria Centeno has disbanded her club. Houston, however, has another Rito Romero and Black Guzman club, of which Nelda Forsythe, 740 West 19th St., is president. This club will be listed in the Roster in our next edition. Mechanical difficulties prevent making the change in this issue.

I want gratefully to acknowledge an honorary membership in the International Wrestling Writers' Association, of which Ed Briggs, of San Francisco, is president, and Dorothy Brydges is Executive Secretary. I'm sure this association can and will do a great deal to help put wrestling on a high plane in the field of sports.

It is the plan of this department to run a series, on the presidents of the leading wrestling fan clubs. We already have obtained photographs of Elizabeth Rable, Dorothy Brydges, Lucille Green, Ruth Lunel and a couple of other officers of some other clubs, but to make this a real top-notch feature, we need nice clear photographs of a lot more heads of fan clubs. I have photos of Art Hermeling, but I hayen't any of Jimmy Prince, for instance.

While we want our readers to send in photographs taken by them, so far the results of their photography have been anything but "colossal." The best pictures have been received from Mrs. B. Carpenter, RD 2, Mills Road, Baldwinsville, N. Y. Mrs. Carpenter apparently is an expert with a camera, for she has produced some excellent action and posed pictures of many well known wrestlers, and spectacular shots of matches in Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse and other cities. We plan to devote a full page to some of her pictures in the next issue.

The publishers of WRESTLING WORLD have received many requests and suggestions that the Wrestling Fan's Magazine be merged with and incorporated in this magazine. Consideration of these proposals have delayed the issuance of Wrestling Fans' Magazine. So it has been decided to put the question to our readers.

A merger would mean a bigger magazine, with a greater amount of space allotted to this department, but with no increase in price for the combined publication, for this year, at least. A mail vote by our subscribers before publication of the next issue will decide the question.

Meantime you can vote for or against the merger by indicating your preference on the accompanying coupon, and mailing it to Circulation Manager, Wrestling World, 147 West 42nd St., New York 36.

I vote yes_____, No_____

Name .....

Address .....

Many of you write in asking how to start a fan club. The main thing is to get a group of your friends who are interested in the same wrestler, even if there are only three or four of you, choose one of your number as president and, if there are enough of you, elect other officers. Then each of you write to other friends inviting them to join the club.

If you want to be real authentic and do a good job of boosting your wrestler, then get his written permission to start a fan club for him. If you find, by consulting the Fan Club Roster, that there already is a club or several chapters, for your wrestler, get in touch with the officer of the chapter nearest your section and ask to have your club recognized as a chapter. If you get an O.K., and if you qualify with them, then you can exchange letters with the members of the other chapters, and your growth will be automatic.

You may find it necessary to have dues to defray expenses for stationary, stamps, membership cards, and bulletins if you print any.

When you write to Cousin El's Mail-Box, please make a definite request if you wish to have your club listed in the Roster. Sometimes I am not sure if some of you are only *considering* starting a fan club if you receive enough replies to your letter after its publication in this column, or if you are definitely under way and mean to carry on with the club.

And don't forget, Fans, you are the ones who are on the spot at wrestling matches throughout the country and any of you who are camera enthusiasts are welcome to send snapshots to this department for publication. Please remember, if you or your wrestler is wearing a dark suit, the picture will turn out much better if the people are standing in front of a light background; and if they are wearing light colored clothes then have them stand in front of a dark background.

The mail was pretty heavy this month, so let's start reading. Hope it's even heavier next issue!

Deor Cousin El:

Being official President of the Tiger Tasker Fan Club, I seem to be having an awful time getting information about our club published in any of the magazines. I realize I'm not the only one who wants mention in the Fan Clubs columns, but my club started a year ago last January, and I wrote quite a few times to various magazines and never heard from any of them. I do hope you can mention it in one of your columns soon. We have well over 200 members, and get requests about joining every week. There are yearly dues, and each member receives pictures of Tiger, plus a club pin, pencil and a membership card.

Anyone wishing to join this club may write to the following address:

Irma Perros, Pres.
R.F.D. #3, Cowesett Ave.,
West Warwick, Rhode Island

We hope we've been of some help to you and your club, Irma. The main purpose of this department is to give whatever assistance and encouragement we can in the way of publicizing the various clubs that have proven themselves such loyal supporters of the wrestlers they have pledged allegiance to. Keep up the good work!

* * *

Fan Club Editor:

Would you please list my club in the Fan Club Roster. I am just starting the "Whitey" Wahlberg Fan Club, and do not have a secretary. I have the full cooperation of the wrestler and also the International President.

Mrs. Lenora Cochran
Rt. 2
Rochester, Ohio

We'll list this chapter, but it might be a good idea to have us list the main chapter also. How about it?

* * *

Dear Cousin El:

We are organizing the Louis Martinez Fan Club with Louis' permission and it is showing great success.

He is one with speed and definitely the greatest wrestler ever to come from south of the border. He is now Junior Heavyweight Champion of Mexico.

We hope to see a feature story or mention of Louis Martinez in your magazine in the near future. We would appreciate being listed in your Roster.

Martha Raber
146 Clinton
Abilene, Texas

Thanks for the swell handbill, Martha. You and Pat Carille seem to be off to a booming start with over 200 members. Send us more about this young feller.

* * *

Dear Cousin El:

I have received permission from Johnny Rougeau to start a fan club for him. I think Johnny is a wonderful wrestler. The Secretary and I are trying to see what we can put into this club to make it the best in the United States and Canada.

Estelle Connors, Pres.
85 Pearl St.,
Chelsea, Mass.

Estelle will give info regarding dues, pictures and membership cards to all of you who care to write her.

* * *

Dear Cousin El:

I would be very pleased if Yukon

VAS YOU DERE? Wrestling fans give vent to their feelings at matside in Columbus, Ohio

Eric fans would write me. I believe that Yukon doesn't have too many fan clubs, so come on, you lovers of good, clean wrestling, and let this big man from the 'Frozen North' know that you're behind him. If you fans want to join, just write me and I'll send you all the information on the club.

David Olsen, Pres.
1517 B. Kainert St.,
St. Paul, Minnesota

Such a popular wrestler as Eric must have a great number of potential fan club members.

* * *

Dear Editor:

I received permission from Ace Freeman last January to start a fan club in his honor. So far, we have about 50 members, but we have run into a snag: I just can't seem to get in touch with Ace Freeman. I would appreciate it if you could help me in this matter.

I am making plans to publish a journal, the first issue to be out some time in May. Please list our club in your Roster.

Good luck with the new magazine. I have not missed an issue and do not intend to.

Mary Lou McCormack
37 Ewing St.,
Trenton 9, New Jersey

* * *

Write to Ace c/o Manhattan Booking Ofc., 351 W. 42 St., N.Y. 36, N.Y. Mail will be held there for him until he hits NYC again. That's all the help we can give you, I'm sorry to say.

* * *

Dear Cousin El:

I am a subscriber to your wonderful magazine and look forward eagerly to it each month. I am starting a fan club for Gino Martinelli and would appreciate it if you would list my club in your Roster.

Patty Emans, Pres.
Smiling Martinelli's F.C.
P.O. Box 91
Celina, Ohio

* * *

Dear Cousin El:

On March 16, I had the pleasure of meeting Argentine Rocca while he was wrestling here in Waterloo.

I received permission, in writing, from him to form a fan club; and he also granted me a charter for the Argentine Rocca Fan Club for a period of three years. I am now starting a drive for memberships. Anyone interested in joining should write to me for information.

Vernon Hastings, Pres.
1304 West Third
Waterloo, Iowa

It seems to me you've made an excellent start. You might contact the other Rocca club listed in the Fan Club Roster and become a Chapter club of it. Write us again when you're ready to be listed in the Roster.

Greg Jarque and Janet Lawrence

* * *

Dear Cousin El:

I would like to start a fan club for Gene Stanlee. I know there are others, but I have a great many members. Anyone wishing to join, write to:

Philadelphia 4, Penna.
Joseph C. Payne
3 South 43 St.,

Let us know when your club is well enough under way to be listed in the Roster.

* * *

Dear Sir:

I have permission from Don Lee Jonathan to start a fan club for him. Anyone who wishes to join, please write to me.

Janice Bielecki
11 North East St.,
Holyoke, Mass.

* * *

Dear Editor:

I was wondering if you would please publish my club, the Joe Cassius Fan Club, in your magazine. I would like to be my club better know. Thank you.

Jo Ann Brown
215 North 13th St.,
Newark, Ohio

* * *

Dear Cousin El:

I have started a club for Gregory Jarque, with his permission of course. Enclosed is a picture of Greg and me taken the night we started the club. Thank you for putting it in the magazine, if you do.

Greg is a fine wrestler and a wonderful fellow—also very appreciative of anything done for him. Any fans of

Steve Stanlee, Ruth Lunel, Frank Tunney

his who would care to join his fan club, please write to me and I will send them information. Thank you for your help.

Janet Lawrence, Pres.
654 Fourth St.,
Lancaster, Penna.

We agree wholeheartedly about Greg and hope your club is a huge success. Thanks for the picture, Janet.

* * *

Dear Cousin El:

I have started a fan club for Al Kashey with his permission, and anyone wanting to join can write to me. I have only a few, but would like some more.

Sarah Boehl, Pres.
"The Calif. Jet" Al Kashey
Box 206, Sta. D.
Cincinnati, Ohio

* * *

Gentlemen:

Would you please publish in your next issue of WRESTLING WORLD that anyone interested in joining the Billy Two Rivers Fan Club, write to:

Helen Yinger
R.F.D. 5
Sidney, Ohio

Billy Two Rivers is someone we're unfamiliar with. How about giving out with some information, Helen?

* * *

And now for a bit of chit-chatter:

Let's run through some of the bulletins we've received and pick out bits and pieces here and there which might be of interest to wrestling fans in general.

"The Blarney Sheet," put out by Danny McShain Fan Club (president John Miller, Glendale, Calif.), announces a new branch of their club located in San Antonio, Texas, headed by Jacqueline Stanford. Reading further, we learn that Danny's birthday is October 30.

I'm sorry to read that these avid wrestling fans were disappointed with the West Coast's standards of wrestling the past few months, and they think it stems from a feud among the promoters. I assume this bulletin is the March issue. If so, then I trust the wrestling scene has improved since then, not only with the appearance there of Danny McShain, but in every other way. After all, there are two ways of making money—one is to give the public what they want, the other is to print it yourself. And I'm sure the National Wrestling Alliance is astute enough not to bite the hand of the fans that feed wrestling.

Thanks to the Blarney Sheet for the nice plug for WRESTLING WORLD. I guess we all like to have friends.

* * *

One of the best bulletins we've received is "Pat Patter," published by the Pat O'Connor Fan Club at Ilion, N.Y.,; Anita Trefzger is national president. This bulletin is only two pages, but it is newsy, informative, well written and concise. I regret I don't have a later edition—the one I have is the February issue, and this column is being written in April for the June issue of WRESTLING WORLD.

Incidentally, it is because of this discrepancy in time that we do not publish results of the many wrestling matches, but quite a few of the fan clubs carry this news of their particular wrestler in their bulletins. From the results of Pat's matches carried in Pat Patter, we learn that during the first two months of this year O'Connor's itenerary included St. Louis, Mo.; Sioux City, Io.; Toledo O.; Boston Mass.; Utica, N.Y.; Minneapolis, Minn.; Lockport, Ill.; and back to St. Louis, Mo. This should give some of you an idea why it's so difficult for mail to reach a wrestler.

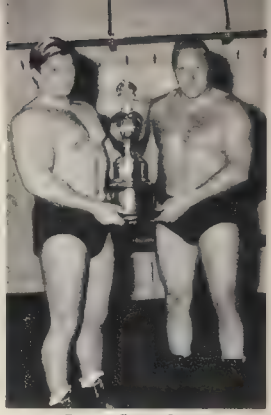
On February 16, O'Connor won the Rocky Mountain heavyweight title from Reggie Lisowski in Denver, Colorado.

* * *

The Dallas chapter of the Ray Gunkel Fan Club (Patsy Pate, president), report in their February bulletin that there are approximately 525 members in their chapter and 105 members in the San Antonio chapter.

They go on to say that "Strangler" Lewis regards Ray as the type of fine athlete he likes to manage. However, since Ray is among the leading contenders for the N.W.A. Heavyweight Championship held by Lou Thesz, the Strangler's protege, he'll leave the managerial honors of Gunkel to Jack Dempsey. The fact that Dempsey wants to manage Gunkel is pretty good recommendation for Ray, because J.D. is no slouch himself at spotting athletic talent.

This club's members reported the



Reggie Lisowski and Art Neilson

match in Indianapolis, Indiana, on January 30, between Thesz and Gunkel held "the capacity crowd spellbound by the excellent display of scientific holds and counter-holds . . . a real DREAM MATCH!"

That's the type I go for!

* * *

Buddy Rogers' Fan Club bulletin (president, Dennis Canty of Quebec, Canada), announces that Buddy's mother is now an honorary member.

They also report that the wildest storm of the winter failed to deter 12,000 fans from flocking to the Forum Arena to see Antonina Rocca, who has become a great attraction there. Nicer weather would have made a record attendance.

Gerry Henize gave up Fans of the Mat bulletin because the job took "more time, talent and moolah than I have." . . . Patricia Hunt announces the temporary or permanent disbandment of the Lu Kim Fan Club, but no reason is given. Sorry to hear this.

If you want a wrestler's authentic autograph, get it from him or her yourself in person. This office does not send out autographs.

A letter from Charles McClary of St. Louis, requests a story on Buddy Rogers and the Great Scott "who have a real claim to the tag team championship. They've beaten such as Silverstein & Montana, Talabar & Silverstein. and Tangaro & Brunetti in New Jersey. The match here in St. Louis had some dispute, as only one fall was scored in the one hour time limit by Rogers & Scott. They are having a re-match and our promoter Sam Muchnick, is going to give the winners N.W.A. recognition of the tag team championship. Rogers & Scott for sure will be the true tag team champs."

Anybody else got an opinion?

Huntington, W. Virginia Chapter of Roy Shire Strut Club gives first dinner of year for their Honorary at home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred M. Beahrs. At the table, left to right are Mr. Beahrs, Mrs. Beryl Wilson, Dick Deutsch, Elizabeth Rable, International Pres.; The Prof himself, Manager Bobby Wallace, Miss Pat Rupe. Standing, Mrs. Allie Beahrs, Pres. Huntington Chapter, Miss Cassie Sang and Anita Vaughn.

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CHUCKLE LUCK

BY — Tom McNAMARA

"ANY SUGGESTIONS?"

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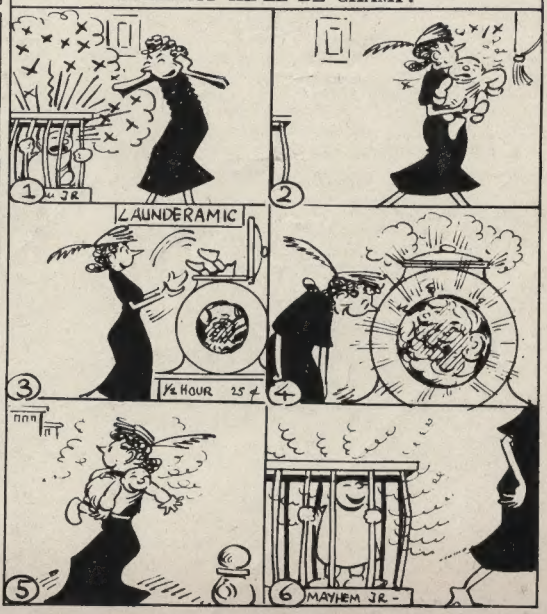
"—WHASSAT,—IN THESE NIGHTMARES YOU'VE BEEN HAVING YOU *NEVER* ARGUE WITH THE REFEREE, EVEN WHEN YOU'RE *LOSING*?"

"—YOU'D *BETTER* WIN TO-NIGHT . . . THE MONOGRAMED TOWELS AREN'T BACK FROM THE LAUNDRY YET, AND YOU CERTAINLY WOULDN'T WANT ONE OF THESE OLD RAGES TOSSED IN!"

SOMEDAY HE'LL BE CHAMP.



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Schmidt, Hans
Schnabel, Hans
Scott, The Great
Seaton, Frank
Sharkey, Texas Babe
Sharpe, Bros.
Sheik of Araby
Shikat, Richard
Shire, Roy
Silverstein, Ruffy
Sledge, Bill
Smith Brothers
Stanlee, Bros.
Stanlee, Gene
Stanlee, Steve
Starr, Ricki
Steele, Ray
Steele, Tom
Stein, Abe
Stein, Sammy
Steinborn, Dick
Steinborn, Milo
Steinke, Hans
Stojack, Frank
Superman, Golden
Swenski, John
Tafrof, Alex
Talun
Talaber, Frank
Terror, Golden
Thesz, Lou
Thunderbird, Chief
Thunder, Roy
Togo, The Great
Torres, Enrique
Torres, Miguel
Vagnone, Gino
Valentine, Johnny
Vargas, Billy
Vetucci, Joe (Jungle Boy)
Villmer, Ray
Wagner, Bob
Walge, Art
Yaqui, Chief Cherokee
Watson, Whipper Billy
Welch, Roy
Wolf, Chief Little
Zaharias, Chris
Zbyszko, Stanislaus
Zsabo, Sandor

WOMEN

Adela Antone
Ash, Ada
Barattini, Gloria
Bennett, Mars
Bitter, Lilly
Blevins, Cecile
Boatcallie, Ruth
Brown, Ethel
Burke, Mildred
Byers, June
Carlo, Rosa
Carotta, Carol
Coffman, Juanita
Collins, Helen
Combe, Cora
Cook, Carol
Copeland, Caroline
Dalton, Dolly
Dalton, Eleanor
Dieckman, Dorna Marie
Dotson, Dot
Ellison, Lillian
Ford, Joyce
Green, Louise
Hawkins, Betty
Hild, Helen
Holland, Jean
Horton, Mary
Johnson, Audrey
Johnson, Ethel
Johnson, Lois
Johnson, Lorraine
Kennedy, Jean
Laverne, Ann
Lehmer, Beverly
Livingston, Lynn
Martin, Marilyn
Martinez, Ida May
Mull, Mary Jane
Mulleniex, Jo Ann
Olsen, Ellen
Page, Vicki
Phillips, Ella
Price, Joan
Rateliff, Arlene
Shelton, Gloria
Shipman, Marilyn
Smith, Joyce
Simpson, Catherine
Snodgrass, Elvira
Stanley, Ann
Stafford, Millie
Stewart, Nell
Strimple, Shirley
Theis, Therese
Viann, Violet
Waldek, Ella
Wall, Evelyn
Watson, Bonnie
Wemblen, Kathleen
Weston, Mae
Wingo, Babs
Young, Mae
Zenni, Sheaba

MIDGET WRESTLERS

Darling, Lou "Little"
Farmer Pete
Hallasie, Sallie
Irish Jack
Little Beaver
Little, (Gorgeous) Jimmy
Mighty Fritz, The
Pee Wee James
Schultz, The Great
Sky Low Low
Tiny Roe
Tom Thumb

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LOU THESZ

N.W.A. Heavyweight Wrestling Champion of the World